

demand after following the prescribed procedure. In addition, the workers may take up any other work and also employment under other programmes of the State Government. 100 days guarantee under NREGA is expected to supplement the other sources of employment available to the workforce.

Proposals pending under SGSY from M.P.

†854. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state what is the number of proposals of Madhya Pradesh pending under SGSY Special Project and by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) As on date, 63 proposals for Special Projects were received by Government from the Government of Madhya Pradesh under Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY). Out of 63 proposals, 22 proposals were approved and 25 proposals were returned to State Government as they were not found in accordance with the SGSY Special Projects Guidelines. The remaining 16 proposals are under different stages of considerations. On receipt of the proposals from the State Government, it is appraised in the Ministry and is placed before two Inter-Ministerial Committees for approval. These Committees are Projects Screening Committee (PSC) and Project Appraisal Committee (PAC). If the Committees make certain observations to improve and make effective the proposals, the same are sent to State Government for compliance. As such, appraisal, rectification and approval of the projects is a continuous process.

Direction regarding group of ten under SGSY

†855. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a direction to form a group of ten member in SGSY which give rise to disputes as the programmes cannot be organized in such a big group; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government would consider to change direction to the group of five members?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) and (b) As per the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarojgar Yojana (SGSY) guidelines, a Self, Help Group (SHG) may generally consist of 10 to 20 persons. However, in difficult areas like deserts, hills and areas with scattered and sparse population and in case of minor irrigation and disabled persons, this number may be from 5 to 20. The difficult areas have to be identified by the State level SGSY Committee and the above relaxation in membership will be permitted only in such areas.

Including villages having starvation deaths into NREGS

†856. **SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:** Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that starvation deaths are continuing in many States like Uttar Pradesh, Orissa etc;

(b) if so, the State-wise details in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact people dying of hunger don't have money to buy even the grains meant for relief;

(d) whether Government are considering to include such villages in Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) No incident of starvation death has been reported from any State/UT Administration including Uttar Pradesh and Orissa.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) To ensure food security to all, the foodgrains is provided to people free of cost under Food for Work Programme, Annapurna and Emergency Feeding Programme (EPF) for Orissa. Government is also providing foodgrains on

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